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MINERS AND FURNACES FOR SMELTING ORE IN BULGARIAN LANDS IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY

(Summary)

The object of this study is an unpublished Ottoman tax register kept in the Ottoman Archive in Istanbul. This register is the only one of its kind to date. It provides a unique opportunity to identify most of the mining settlements in Bulgarian lands in the second half of the sixteenth century, and to determine the ethnic and religious affiliation of the miners and their tax obligations. Based on the information received, the main mining settlements in Bulgarian lands have been identified; the quantitative characteristics of the miners in the province of Rumelia have been established; their ethnic and religious affiliation; the space they inhabited and the reasons for their migration.